



Coventry City Council

# 7.4

## Public report

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**Report to**

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

14<sup>th</sup> July 2010

**Report of**

Councillor Ken Taylor

**Title**

Report Back on the Work Of Outside Bodies – The Coventry Partnership 2009-2010

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### 1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report sets out details of the work of *The Coventry Partnership* over the preceding twelve months and details of attendance by the City Council's representatives.

### 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 You are recommended to:
- (a) Note the work of the Partnership and its benefits; and,
  - (b) Continue the City Council's membership

### 3 Information on Work of Outside Body

- 3.1 The Coventry Partnership is the local name for Coventry's Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). The Partnership is made up of senior people from Coventry's key public, private, community and voluntary organisations.
- 3.2 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 requires every local authority area to develop a Sustainable Community Strategy setting out the vision and priorities for the local area and requires a new Local Area Agreement to be developed in all strategic local authority areas.
- 3.3 The Coventry Partnership has produced the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and Local Area Agreement (LAA) and, with the City Council, is responsible for collectively reviewing the priorities in the SCS and the LAA. The Coventry Partnership is not a statutory body and is a collection of organisations and representatives coming together voluntarily to work in partnership. All target setting and consequent financial commissioning or contractual arrangements proposed by the Coventry Partnership are formalised through the Governance arrangements of the City Council or one of its partners.
- 3.4 "Coventry – the next twenty years" is Coventry's Sustainable Community Strategy and is Coventry's third community plan. Formally adopted in March 2008 the strategy sets out the long-term vision for Coventry "...to be a growing accessible city where people choose to live, work, learn and businesses choose to invest".

- 3.5 "Coventry - the next twenty years" focuses on ensuring that future growth is used to transform the city and benefits local people by improving quality of life, raising aspirations and narrowing the gap between our most disadvantaged communities and the rest of the city.
- 3.6 The Coventry Local Area Agreement sets out local priorities from the Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy and progress will be measured through a range of indicators with targets set for each of these. A programme of activities has been developed and set out in an action plan for each of the LAA indicators. In 2009/10 targets had been set for 34 LAA indicators and 10 statutory education targets. Progress on the LAA was reported to the Council twice during the year.
- 3.7 The structure of the Coventry Partnership is made up of a range of partnerships and thematic groups which work to identify local priorities and co-ordinate and commission partners' activity to achieve agreed outcomes. Strategic direction and collective agreement of priorities is provided by the Coventry Partnership Board which is made up of 40 people from organisations across the different sectors in the city.
- 3.8 To facilitate collective performance management for the Coventry Partnership, a Local Public Service Board (LPSB) has been set up within the Coventry Partnership's structure with the specific remit to ensure that on-going performance management of the new Local Area Agreement takes place. The LPSB is made up of representatives from the key public service organisations that have a "duty to have regard" to the Local Area Agreement such as the police, the Leader of the Council and representatives from business and voluntary sectors.
- 3.9 The Partnership reported to several Scrutiny committees during the year. Four Theme Groups (Community Safety, Equalities and Community Cohesion, Economy Employment Learning and Skills and The Cultural Partnership) presented reports and the Partnership Chair and Manager were invited to attend a Scrutiny Coordination meeting to discuss the findings. The Scrutiny recommendations will be taken forward in the 2010/11 Partnership work program.
- 3.10 Recent examples of the Partnership successes during the year were:-
- Successful Local Employment Partnership (long-term unemployed helped back to work)
  - Two Employment Networking events.
  - Connecting to Opportunities
  - Connecting to Communities
  - Migration Impact Fund received for Coventry.
  - Health and Work Project launched.
  - Employment Placement Scheme commenced.
  - Community Cohesion Conference and Cohesion Awards
  - Community Cohesion and Data Sharing Strategies have been developed.
  - Data Management System being developed.
  - Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Health and Social Care completed.
  - Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Community Safety completed.
  - ESOL action plan for Coventry developed in partnership.
  - Successful "Switch it off" week campaign.

#### **4 Benefits to the City Council of the Appointment**

- 4.1 The appointment helps the Council meet its requirement under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- 4.2 It provides the Council with a clear leadership role in promoting partnership working to improve public services. This is particularly important in areas such as Climate Change, Economy and Jobs, Health, Housing where the Council is not the lead party in delivering the services.
- 4.3 It enables the Council to demonstrate to outside inspectorates its commitment and continued support of partnership e.g. the Audit Commission and the Comprehensive Area Assessment.
- 4.4 Strong local partnership working is seen as key factor influencing Government Office perception of the Local Authority area and can influence the way funding is allocated to an area. Some government funding such as Migration Impact Fund, Connections to Opportunities Fund and Learning to deliver are only available through Local Strategic Partnerships.

#### **5 Attendance Record and Remuneration for the Appointment**

- 5.1 Council representation on the Coventry Partnership during 2009/10 was:-

- Cllr Ken Taylor
- Cllr Kevin Foster
- Cllr Gary Ridley
- Cllr Ram Lakha
- Cllr John Mutton
- Cllr John McNicholas

- 5.2 Attendance at Coventry Partnership Board meetings during April 2009- Mar 2010 was:-

Cllr Ken Taylor	3 out of 5
Cllr Kevin Foster	3 out of 5
Cllr Gary Ridley	0 out of 5
Cllr Ram Lakha	3 out of 5
Cllr John Mutton	0 out of 5
Cllr John McNicholas	0 out of 5

- 5.3 Cllr Ken Taylor was also a member of the Local Public Service Board and attended the following meetings during April 2009 – Mar 2010

Local Public Services Board	Attended 6 out of 8
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- 5.4 There is no remuneration associated with the appointment.

List of background papers

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Papers open to Public Inspection

**Description of paper**

Schedule of City Council Appointments to Outside Bodies

**Location** Council House, Room 60